

Message Text

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17

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 AF-10 IO-14 ACDA-19 OMB-01 MMS-03

DRC-01 /144 W

----- 106212

R 150911Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1306

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS JAKARTA 3256

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

TO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR IO

SUBJ: DIEGO GARCIA

REF: JAKARTA 3237

IN ADDITION TO COVERAGE OF WEISS TESTIMONY CITED
REFTEL, FOLLOWING HAS RECENTLY APPEARED IN INDONESIAN
PRESS RE DIEGO GARCIA:

A. HEAVY COVERAGE OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
WILLESSEE REMARKS ON MARCH 13 AND 14 DEPLORING US DEC-
ISION TO BUILD DIEGO GARCIA ON GROUNDS THIS CONFLICTS
WITH ASEAN NEUTRALIZATION CONCEPT WHICH AUSTRALIA
SUPPORTS. PRESS ALSO QUOTED MALIK REJOINDER THAT
INDIAN OCEAN COULD NOT BE FREE (OF ARMS) WITH DIEGO
GARCIA AS AN "EXCEPTION." (WE PLAN REPORT WILLESSEE
VISIT AT GREATER LENGTH LATER.)

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B. SEVERAL PAPERS CARRIED UPI COVERAGE OF DOD

OFFICIALS CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY THAT DIEGO GARCIA FACILITIES WOULD COST US \$32.4 MILLION, AND THAT AIRSTRIP WOULD TAKE KC-135 TANKERS. SAME COVERAGE INCLUDED ADMIRAL MOORER STATEMENT THAT AIRCRAFT CARRIERS COULD USE THE FACILITY (BUT WOULD NOT EXCEPT UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES) AND RETRACTION BY ADMIRAL MOORER AND DOD OFFICIALS OF EARLIER STATEMENT THAT B-52'S COULD BE BASED ON DIEGO GARCIA.

C. LONG FEATURE ANALYSIS IN RESPECTED DAILY "KOMPAS" MARCH 15 CONCLUDES THAT SHORT OF BIG-POWER FREE INDIAN OCEAN, INDONESIAN INTERESTS BEST SERVED BY BALANCE OF FORCES IN THE AREA.

D. SEVERAL PAPERS REPORTED MAURITIUS PM RANGOOLAM'S STATEMENT OF CONCERN RE LOCATION OF BASES AND GREAT POWER RIVALRIES IN INDIAN OCEAN.

E. DAILY SINAR HARAPAN CARRIED WIRE SERVICE STORY FROM NEW DELHI MARCH 13 ON INDIAN GOVERNMENT OPPOSITION TO EXPANDED US NAVAL PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN.
NEWSOM

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30 JUN 2005

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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005